

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4680

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, MP (ASGARALLY, ABDOOL AZIZE)

SUBJECT: EDUCATION GRANT FOR ASGARALLY A. AZIZE

REF: STATE 054912

1.) REFTEL STATED ASGARALLY ELIGIBLE FOR FOREIGN RESEARCH LECTURER TRAVEL GRANT. HE WAS INFORMED AND EMBASSY INTENDS TO NOMINATE FROM FY-75 FUNDS. UNIVERSITY ENCOURAGED ASGARALLY TO BELIEVE HE COULD OBTAIN ASSISTANTSHIP WHICH HE WAS COUNTING ON TO DEFRAY HIS EXPENSES. HE RECEIVED TELEGRAM DATED JULY 6 FROM DOUGLAS COOK, HEAD DEPARTMENT THEATRE AND FILM, PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY, THAT ASSISTANTSHIP WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE BUT THAT UNIVERSITY WOULD HOLD SPACE OPEN IN MA PROGRAM FOR HIM.

2.) TELEGRAM WAS VERY DISAPPOINTING TO ASGARALLY AND TO EMBASSY WHICH HAS BEEN ASSISTING HIM IN OBTAINING UNIVERSITY ENTRANCE AND FINANCING FOR HIS ACADEMIC YEAR. EMBASSY NOMINATING ASGARALLY FOR TRAVEL GRANT UNDER TERMS OF 12 FAM 406. HE WOULD APPRECIATE FULLEST ASSISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENT ON PRIORITY BASIS TO FIND ALTERNATE FUNDS TO COVER EXPENSES AT UNIVERSITY THROUGH USG OR PRIVATE SOURCES TO PERMIT HIM TO UNDERTAKE HIS PROGRAM IN 1974-75 SCHOOL YEAR.

3.) WE CONSIDER ASGARALLY AS EXCEPTIONALLY WORTHY CANDIDATE. HE IS LEADING YOUNG AUTHOR AND PLAYWRIGHT WHO RECEIVED THE MEDAL OF THE CITY OF PORT LOUIS IN 1972 FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO MAURITIUS THEATRE AND CULTURE. HE HAS PUBLISHED AND PRESENTED SIX PLAYS AND ONE NOVEL. IN ADDITION, HE HAS DIRECTED NINE PLAYS ON STAGE AND TWO ON TV. ONE OF HIS OWN PLAYS HAS ALSO BEEN ADAPTED AND PRE-

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SENTED ON TV. HERETOFORE MAURITIUS HAS LOOKED ALMOST ENTIRELY

TO BRITAIN, FRANCE AND INDIA FOR CULTURE INSPIRATION. THE INTEREST THAT ASGARALLY HAS IN INTERPRETING AMERICAN THEATRE TO MAURITIUS AUDIENCES IS OF GREAT VALUE TO USG CULTURAL GOALS IN BROADENING ACADEMIC AWARENESS OF THE U.S. WITH SUCH ADDITIONAL ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS FROM PENN STATE, ASGARALLY BELIEVES HE WILL BE IN A GOOD POSITION TO COMPETE FOR THE DIRECTORSHIP IN THEATRE ARTS OF THE NEW MAHATMA GHANDI INSTITUTE OR THE DIRECTORSHIP OF THE THREATRE ARTS DEPARTMENT OF THE TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGE. BOTH ARE VACANT AND IN EITHER POSITION HE WILL BE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL SITUATED TO PORTRAY BEST IN AMERICAN LITERARY INFLUENCES AND DRAMATIC TECHNIQUES TO MAURITIAN TEACHZRS AND STUDENTS AS WELL AS INTEL-LECTUAL CIRCLES HERE.

4.) BIO-DATA:

1. NAME: ASGARALLY, ABDOOL AZIZE
2. PRESENT POSITION: EDUCATION OFFICER, MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
3. ADDRESS: 7, DR. CASTEL AVE., ROSE HILL, MAURITIUS
4. PLACE OF BIRTH: MAURITIUS
5. CITIZEN OF MAURITIUS
6. MARITAL STATUS: MARRIED
7. MEMBERSHIPS IN PROFESSIONAL INSTITUTIONS:
PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL THEATRE INSTITUTE OF MAURITIUS
MEMBER OF THE P.E.N. INTERNATIONAL
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR COMMONWEALTH LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES
EDITOR OF THE YOUNG OBSERVER MAGAZINE
8. FOREIGN TRAVEL:
ATTENDED THE 3RD CONFERENCE OF THE ACLALS HELD AT KINGSTON UNIVERSITY, JAMAICA 1971
PARTIAL LEADER GRANT 1971.
9. LANGUAGE: FLUENT ENGLISH AND FRENCH

5.) APPRECIATE ANSWER SOONEST.
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